Export target for 2005-06

165. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to achieve the target of 1.5 per cent share in the global trade, India's exporters have to bring home US$175 billion in the next five years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the exports during 2003-04 stood at US$60 billion; and

(c) what is the export target set for 2005-06 and the percentage of target achieved in 2004-05?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) India's exports are targeted at US$ 150 billion in 2008-09 so as to reach 1.5% share in the global trade during the next five years.

(b) Exports were valued at US$ 63.84 billion during 2003-04.

(c) An export target of US$ 88 billion has been fixed for 2005-06. Exports were valued at US$ 60.75 billion during April-January, 2004-05 against a target of US$75 billion for the full financial year. Hence, the percentage of target achieved during the first ten months of the current financial year was 81%.

Simplification of rules for exporters

166. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Committee under Mr. Ashok Jha to simplify procedures and rules for exporters;

(b) whether it is a fact that every exporter has to fill up over twenty forms to export anything;

(c) what are the reasons for such procedures;

(d) whether any interim action can be taken to reduce and simplify such forms and procedures; and

(e) the steps proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND

INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) In the Department of Commerce, the Government has set up a Committee on Reduction of Transaction Costs and Simplification of Procedures under the Chairmanship of the Director General of Foreign Trade.

(b) and (c) Each exporter has to fill in different forms at various stages of the export cycle so as to adhere to the regulatory and monitoring framework prescribed by different Departments/Ministries and to enable the Government to collect trade statistics on exports.

(d) and (e) Simplification of Procedures is an ongoing process and the Government reviews these Procedures normally at the time of annual review of Foreign Trade Policy.

Establishment of MPEDA Offices world over

167. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether government propose to establish offices of MPEDA in different parts of the world to enhance the image of Indian marine products;

(b) how many such overseas offices the MPEDA have presently;

(c) what are the proposals to open new overseas offices by MPEDA;

(d) what is the view of Government on this issue; and

(e) what would be the details of annual cost of running an additional office of MPEDA in Europe?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There are two overseas offices of the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) at Tokyo in Japan and New York in U.S.A.

(c) MPEDA does not have any proposal to open any new overseas office.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.